

# What's New in the MPDC

SEPTEMBER 10, 2001

## SAN DIEGO COURT RULING HAS NO IMPACT ON DC'S RED-LIGHT CAMERA, PHOTO RADAR PROGRAMS

\*\*\*\*\*

*For information on the District's new photo radar speeding reduction initiative, including the locations of the enforcement zones currently being targeted, go to:*

*[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Select Traffic Safety under the Information section)*

A recent ruling by a judge in San Diego, California, invalidating 292 citations generated by that city's red-light camera program, has no impact on DC's photo enforcement programs. Both the District's two-year-old red-light camera program and the month-old photo radar speeding reduction initiative remain fully operational. Judge Ronald Styn ruled that San Diego's program violated California law by allowing a private company to have a role in the operation of the program.

In contrast, DC's photo enforcement law specifically authorizes the District to enter into an agreement with a private entity to support program operations, including the maintenance of equipment and the processing and mailing of citations. In DC, these services are provided by a company called Affiliated Computer Services (which recently purchased Lockheed Martin IMS), under the direct supervision of the MPDC. The Police Department makes all program decisions, including the location of cameras and the business rules for processing citations, and a Metropolitan Police officer reviews all Notices of Infraction before they are mailed out. To learn more about DC's red-light camera program, including the latest safety results, click on:

[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Select Traffic Safety under the Information section)

## GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY DECIDES TO CLOSE DURING IMF/WORLD BANK MEETINGS

\*\*\*\*\*

Concerned that large-scale demonstrations planned in conjunction with this month's meetings of the International Monetary Fund and The World Bank could disrupt its nearby Foggy Bottom campus, George Washington University announced this week that it is closing its main campus from Thursday evening, September 27 until Tuesday, October 2. No classes will be held at the Foggy Bottom campus during this period, and all facilities – including all residence halls – will be closed. “Having assessed the overall impact of the World Bank/IMF meetings and the protests on our campus community, Metropolitan Police have recommended that GW close during this period and ask all but designated personnel to leave the area,” the university wrote in a letter to its community. The GW Hospital will remain open during this period; employees will receive instructions from hospital officials regarding work schedules and restrictions. Read the entire message to the GW community at:

[www.gwu.edu/imf.html](http://www.gwu.edu/imf.html)

*The IMF/World Bank meetings are scheduled for September 29-30 at the groups' headquarters buildings in downtown DC. While large-scale demonstrations are expected on those dates, other protest activities could take place in the days leading up to the meetings. The MPDC will soon be releasing more information about its public safety plans concerning this event. Watch the MPDC Website – [www.mpdc.dc.gov](http://www.mpdc.dc.gov) — for regular updates before and during the event.*

## CHIEF RAMSEY URGES STRONGER FOCUS ON CRIME PREVENTION IN COMMUNITY POLICING

\*\*\*\*\*

*The MPDC's "Policing for Prevention" strategy includes three elements: focused law enforcement, neighborhood partnerships and systemic prevention (the latter addresses "social prevention" issues). Learn more about "Policing for Prevention" and how you can get involved by visiting:*

*[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov)  
(Go to Policing for Prevention)*

During opening remarks at this week's "Policing for Prevention" International Crime Prevention Summit, Chief Ramsey urged police executives in the US and around the world to work harder at integrating crime prevention into their community policing strategies. Ramsey noted that the concept of crime prevention had evolved over the last several decades, from an early focus on law enforcement and individual "target-hardening" to a more comprehensive approach that includes community partnerships and environmental design. The Chief said the next big challenge for police departments and municipal governments is to integrate the concept of "social prevention" – or dealing with unemployment, drug abuse,

dysfunctional families and other root causes and conditions that lead to crime – into their community policing strategies. "While police agencies for years resisted any involvement in this type of 'root cause' prevention, the fact of the matter is that without addressing these underlying social issues, all of our other efforts at enforcement, target-hardening, community building, and environmental re-design are undermined at best, and negated at worst," Ramsey told summit delegates. Read the Chief's complete statement at:

[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Click on News Room and go to Statements)

## GAY AND LESBIAN LIAISON UNIT STEPS UP COMMUNITY OUTREACH EFFORTS

\*\*\*\*\*

Established in June 2000, the MPDC's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit (GLLU) is dedicated to meeting the unique public safety needs of DC's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered (GLBT) communities. The unit is staffed by openly gay and lesbian members of the MPDC: Sergeant Brett Parson and Officer Kelly McMurry. As part of a stepped-up outreach effort, the unit recently designed and printed hundreds of cards alerting the GLBT communities of the services the unit offers. The GLLU is also seeking recommendations on additional services or programs the unit could provide. For more details on the GLLU, including telephone and e-mail contact information, click on:

*Assisting victims of hate crimes is one of the services offered by GLLU. DC's hate crimes law specifically covers sexual orientation. Learn more about the law and how to report a crime by going to:*

*[mpdc.dc.gov](http://mpdc.dc.gov) (Select Other Safety Tips in the Information section)*

[mpdc.dc.gov/about/org/gllu.shtm](http://mpdc.dc.gov/about/org/gllu.shtm)

\*\*\*\*\*

*Information, ideas or comments about this service?*

*E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kevin.morison@dc.gov](mailto:kevin.morison@dc.gov).*

*Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com).*

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE**  
**MPDC.DC.GOV**